



CLUB  
82

VOLUME  
39

FEBRUARY  
2026

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**PROBUS**  
**CLUB OF AJAX**  
**NEWSLETTER**

**February 15, Flag Day**

# PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX NEWSLETTER

Club 82

Volume 39

February 2026

*In this edition,...*

## Management Team

**President:** Kathy Lennox

**Vice President:** Vacant

**Past President:** April Gilkinson

**Treasurer:** Murray Biel

**Secretary:** Erika Winfrow

**Membership:** Debbie Casquenette

**Speakers:** Diane Sharp and Marlene Rae

**Socials:** Shirlie van Putten

**Interest Groups:** Julie Mathewson

**Communications:** Tina Gee

**House:** Erika Winfrow

**Technical:** Stewart Beatty

**Newsletter:** Lynne Stewart

**Member-at-Large:** Kevin Portener

## *President's Message...*

### February is for friends...and connections!

It's been an exciting start to 2026! A trip to Dominican Republic and then to Portugal! We're spending the rest of the winter doing all the other activities available to members: restaurant gatherings, cards, bowling, book clubs, walking outdoors...

What do all these different activities have in common? Quite simply, they are ways of bringing us together. As you know, joining Probus is an excellent way to make connections with other retired people at our monthly meeting and activities. Here are 5 great ways Probus Club of Ajax helps us stay connected!

1. We have our monthly **newsletter**, edited and circulated to all current members by Lynne. She keeps us up-to-date with a calendar of events, and details about our trips and interest groups.
2. We also have a **website** monitored by Webmaster Oankar. You can find out more about the Club through past newsletters, bylaws, documents. [www.ajaxprobus.com](http://www.ajaxprobus.com)
3. Another way to stay in the know is through our **private Facebook page** for members only, where you will find reminders, photos and current information.
4. Tina, our Communications Coordinator, supplies the **E-blasts**--those little email reminders of upcoming events!
5. Last but certainly not least we have a **weekly Zoom meeting** offered by Zoom Host Stewart, every Friday at 1 pm. You can connect with club members without leaving your home!

Still want to know more? Just ask a volunteer or member of the Management Team at our monthly general meeting. Hope to see you there!

*Kathy Lennox*



# PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX NEWSLETTER

Probus Club of Ajax would like to acknowledge and thank the Town of Ajax and the Ajax Partnership Fund for their support of our Club's events and activities. We work together to make a meaningful impact for Ajax residents and the broader community.

## PROBUS AJAX FEBRUARY 2026 CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 WALKING GRP 2 @ 10	2 CRACK THE CASE @10 CRIBBAGE @ 2	3	4	5 WALKING GRP 1 @ 10 BRIDGE @ 2	6 ZOOM CHAT @ 1 MAHJONG @ 2	7
8 WALKING GRP 2 @ 10 GOMEO LUNCH @ NOON RODEO LUNCH @ NOON	9 COFFEE & CHAT @10 CRIBBAGE @ 2	10 PROBUS MEETING @10 EUCHRE @ 2	11	12 WALKING GRP 1 @10 BRIDGE @ 2	13 POOL @ 11 ZOOM CHAT @ 1	14
15 WALKING GRP 2 @ 10 SIP & CHAT BOOK CLUB @1	16 BOOK CLUB @ 10 Cribbage @ 2	17 COFFEE TIME @ 10	18	19 WALKING GRP 1 @10 BRIDGE @ 2 DINING OUT @ 5:30	20 ZOOM CHAT @1 MAHJONG @ 2	21
22 WALKING GRP 2 @ 10 BOWLING @ 1 HAPPY HOUR @ 2:30	23 BREAKFAST AT 9 CRIBBAGE @2	24 EUCHRE @ 2	25	26 WALKING GRP 1 @10 BRIDGE @ 2	27 POOL @ 11 ZOOM CHAT @ 1	28

Take advantage of the FACEBOOK page for your PROBUS Club of Ajax. It is visible to our 94 members only. By joining, you will see what goes on at some of the interest group events.



# General Meetings

Will be held the first Wednesday of the month with the exception of February. The February meeting will be February 11th at the Ajax Community Centre, HMS Ajax Room (south side of building)

Meeting Fee \$2



## PROBUS CLUB OF AJAX NEWSLETTER

### Notices:

**Reminder: In winter, please check your email before setting out for the Probus meetings or events, especially when heavy snow or ice conditions are predicted. If we have to cancel due to weather conditions, we will be sending you an email notice!**

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**2025 was a year of great growth for our club and we are excited to welcome over 60 new members.**

**We have been aware for a while that other clubs have capped their membership and we have been reluctant to follow suit since we believe a group like ours should be available to all retired and semi retired persons in Ajax. Keeping Ajax seniors in mind and remembering that we receive a lot of support from the Town of Ajax, we have made the decision that moving forward, new membership in the club will be restricted to those living in the Town.**

**This wasn't an easy decision, especially since we have many longtime and valued members who live outside of Ajax. We want to assure existing non-Ajax resident members that this new policy does not affect you. You are already part of our family!**



# Speakers Corner



**February 11th Speaker**  
**Steve Chapelle**  
**Information and Security Educator**  
**Topic: An Overview of Artificial Intelligence**

Steve Chapelle has been providing information privacy and security education to Canadian professional, parent, student and retiree organizations since 2006. Prior to that he spent over 20 years in information technology management, analysis and customer service, primarily in the financial services sector. Experience has included security, availability and disaster recovery planning. He is also an instructor and developer at the [Udemy](#) online course platform, and the author of 'No Decision: The 1919 Stanley Cup Final' about the Spanish Flu pandemic.



**March 4th Speaker**  
**John Baynahm**  
**Retirement Income Management &**  
**Wealth Management Services**

John is an award-winning certified financial planner with over 10 years of experience. He started the Retirement Income Group in June of 2019 and leads a team providing wealth management services to families and businesses.



# Socials and Tours

**February 24 - March 18, 2026 - Portugal - pick up flyer**

Portugal's Algarve Province, with its magnetic Moorish appeal has become a Mecca for Snowbirds. It is one of Europe's most picturesque destinations. Cobblestone streets are lined with outdoor cafes, bistros, wine bars and markets full of fresh fruits and vegetables. The weather is wonderfully spring-like and invigorating.

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**May 11th-May 17th**

**Discover Victoria vs. Vancouver**

**Details to follow**



**June 5th-June 11th**

**Discover Nova Scotia**

**Details to follow**

Payments for events and membership may be made via e-transfer through your bank to:

**probusajaxtreasurer@gmail.com**

Include your name and what the payment is for.



**For more information contact Shirlie at 905-619-8583 or  
shirlievanputten@rogers.com OR visit the Website**



# Upcoming Events

## Beat the Blahs Beach Party



Friday February 20th at 7:00 p.m. at the St. Francis Centre. Tickets are \$5. If winter chills have you down, join the beach party and dance the night away to a beachy soundtrack of classic summer hits. Costumes and summer wear are encouraged. You need to buy your own ticket for this event. Please let April know if you are going as she will reserve a table for the group.

**[april-ann@hotmail.com](mailto:april-ann@hotmail.com)**

## Crock a Doodle



Tuesday, March 3rd at 10 am. at 145 Kingston Road East, Unit 16, Ajax.  
Join us at Crock a doodle to have fun with cockery.

Choose an item to paint/glaze - there's lots to choose from: cups, plates, tea pots, salt and pepper shakers, photo frames, piggy banks and much more.

Most pieces are between \$18 and \$36 + HST.  
Contact Diane for more information,  
**[dsharp0322@rogers.com](mailto:dsharp0322@rogers.com)**



**Let's Go Skiing** for a day on the slopes of Dagmar.  
The date will be determined once we have enough interested.  
Contact Patsy for more information  
**call Home 905-686-4495; Cell 289-314-1655**

**[patsyhandley55@gmail.com](mailto:patsyhandley55@gmail.com)**



Payments for events and membership may be made via e-transfer through your bank to:

**[probusajaxtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:probusajaxtreasurer@gmail.com)**

Include your name and what the payment is for.



# Upcoming Events

## Motown Mania - A tribute to Motown



Saturday March 28th at 7: p.m. at the St. Francis Centre. Tickets are \$34.20, but we only have a few left. Relive the sights and sounds of Motown, with hits from the likes of Diana Ross & The Supremes, Smokey Robinson, The Temptations, Stevie Wonder and many more. Contact Julie [jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)

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## The Rolling Stones Experience



Saturday, May 23, 7:00p.m. at the St. Francis Centre  
Tickets are \$38 (\$34.20 if we have more than 10 people)  
Featuring the Blushing Brides. Don't miss the show that  
keeps the spirit of  
The Rolling Stones alive - louder, bolder and  
more unforgettable than ever  
Contact Julie,  
[jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)

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## Quizzes and Cocktails



Wednesday, May 27th at 7:p.m. at the St. Francis Centre  
Tickets are \$5.00  
This event is for supposed know-it-alls, intrepid quiz masters, self-proclaimed professors of random knowledge and those who just want to have a good laugh. Join as an individual or with a team of up to 4 people.  
Contact Julie,  
[jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)

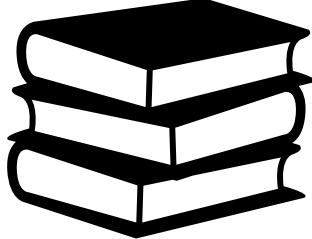
Payments for events and membership may be made via e-transfer through your bank to:

[probusajaxtreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:probusajaxtreasurer@gmail.com)

Include your name and what the payment is for.

# Interest Groups

## Book Club - Your Choice -



Next Meeting: **Tuesday February 17th 10:00 a.m.**

Do you have a favourite book? Did you read a couple of books that you enjoyed and would like to share with others? Join our Book Club-Your Choice where we will discuss books you wanted to read!

Please Contact Lynne: **912lynne@gmail.com or 905.839.8147**

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## Book Club - Sip and Chat



**Reading Now:** The man who Dies Twice by Richard Osman

Enjoy a cuppa and a fun chat about this book!

**Next Meeting: Monday February 16, 2026, 1 - 3 pm**

For more details please contact Kathy at **kathylennox@rogers.com**

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## Bowling + Happy Hour

**This month bowling will be Monday February 23rd at 1 pm (The fourth Monday of this month due to Family day)**

**AJAX BOWLING CENTRE - 172 Harwood Ave. S. Lower floor**

Please contact: **Kevin keportener@gmail.com**

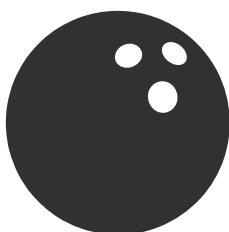
**call or text 905.626.6303**

**\$10 for two games plus \$2 for shoes**

**HAPPY HOUR**

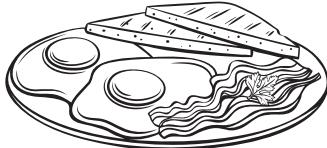
After bowling, at 2:30 pm, we go to the **MACKENZIE PUB.**

Non-bowlers are welcome to join us.



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## Breakfast Club



Next get together: **Tuesday, February 24th at 9:00 am**

**At Kings Castle, 570 Westney Rd, Ajax**

Please contact Lynne: **912lynne@gmail.com 905.839.8147**

# Interest Groups

## Coffee and Conversation



**Next get together is Tuesday February 10<sup>th</sup>, 10-12**

Please Contact Marlene: [marzrae18@gmail.com](mailto:marzrae18@gmail.com)

**This is for anyone who has joined our club in the last 12 months.**  
It is a great way to meet new people and learn more about how to enjoy PROBUS.

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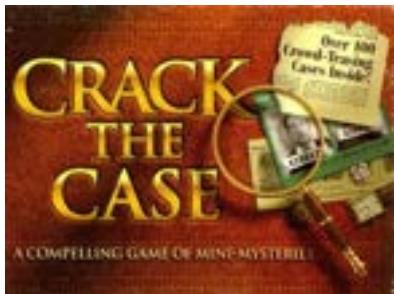
## Coffee Time



**Wednesday February 18th at 10 am  
at Petite Delight  
20 Kingston Rd., Ajax**

For information, contact Lynne: [912lynne@gmail.com](mailto:912lynne@gmail.com) or  
**905.839.8147**

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## **Crack the Case Tuesday February 3rd at 10 on zoom**

Are you good at figuring out a mystery?  
How about this?

The Case: A man is dead in a ring on a sunny afternoon. The man responsible for his murder is arrested nearby with a small object in his hand.

The Mystery: Who killed the man? What was the object, and what part did it play in his death?

for more info contact Lynne: [912lynne@gmail.com](mailto:912lynne@gmail.com)

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## Cribbage



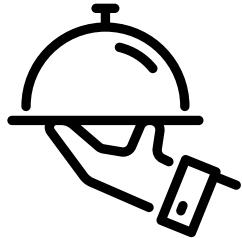
**Every Tuesday 2:00 - 4:00 PM  
At the Pickering Village Senior Centre**

29 Linton Avenue north of Kingston Road, west of Church St.

Please Contact Wendy: [wendysmith1@live.com](mailto:wendysmith1@live.com)

# Interest Groups

## Dining Out



**Third Thursday of the month**

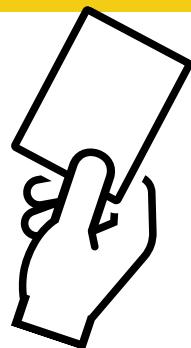
**Next outing will be on Thursday February 19th at  
5:30**

**Location TBA**

Please let Carol know if you are interested.

**[cbreen840@gmail.com](mailto:cbreen840@gmail.com)**

“I reserve the restaurant when I know how many people will be joining us. Let me know as soon as possible if you will attend.”



## Euchre

**Second & Fourth Wednesdays of the month**

**Wednesday February 11<sup>th</sup> and February 25<sup>th</sup> from 2-4**

**To take place at the Pickering Village Senior Center**

**RSVP: Jane [jw.003@sympatico.ca](mailto:jw.003@sympatico.ca) 905-619-6674**

The Pickering Village Senior Center is at 29 Linton Ave, one block north of Kingston Rd, one block west of Church St. Hope you will attend.



## Golf

Outdoor Golf is over for the season.

If anyone wants to join us next year, email [marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca](mailto:marciaeveritt@yahoo.ca)



## GOMEO" Lunch Group"

### "Great Old Men Eating Out"

**Second MONDAY of the month at noon.**

**This month it will be Monday February 9th**

at the MacKenzie Pub and Restaurant

**"Great Old Men Eating Out"**

Please let Kevin know if you are attending

**[keportener@gmail.com](mailto:keportener@gmail.com) 905.626.6303**

# Interest Groups

## Happy Hour



**Happy Hour will be on the fourth Monday of this month due to Family day.**

**Next get-together: Monday February 23rd.**

**Please let Kevin know if you are attending  
[keportener@gmail.com](mailto:keportener@gmail.com) 905.626.6303**

**We join the Bowling group at **MACKENZIE PUB & RESTAURANT****

**250 Bayly St. West Ajax**

## Mahjong



**First and third Fridays of the month 2:00 - 4:00 PM  
at the St. Andrew's Friendship Club, 46 Exeter Road in Ajax, .**

**Next games will be February 6th and February 20th**

**We are playing a simpler Chinese version of the game. New players are welcome even if you've never played before.**

**Please let Julie know if you are attending**

**[jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)**



## Move to the Music

**Move to the Music will be on hiatus for the months of January and February**



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## Play Nine

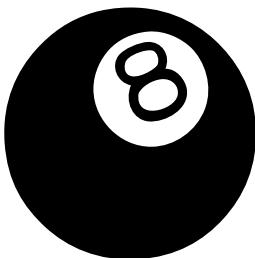
### On hiatus for February and March

**There is a limit of six players**

**Draw, flip and discard cards to shoot the lowest score.**

**Contact Diane Sharp [dsharp0322@rogers.com](mailto:dsharp0322@rogers.com), for directions**

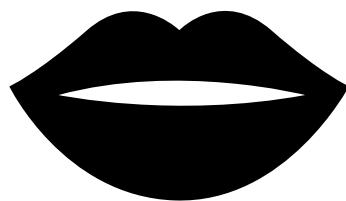
# Interest Groups



## Pool

Second and fourth Friday at **Petrina Billiards**, 21 Harwood Ave. S  
**February 13<sup>th</sup> and February 27<sup>th</sup>**

Everyone is welcome, no experience required. Probus members pay \$6.00 to Petrina's. Please remember to wear your Probus name tag. Contact Don Voorhees, [holdus1399@gmail.com](mailto:holdus1399@gmail.com) or 905-427-7446



## "RODEO" Lunch Group

**"Retired Old Dames Eating Out"**  
**the Second Monday of the month at noon**  
**Next meeting Monday February 9th at Mandarin**  
**in Pickering**

Please let Anne know if you are attending  
[mandareed02@gmail.com](mailto:mandareed02@gmail.com)



## Walking Group 1

**EVERY THURSDAY - AM 10 am Next walk**  
**Thursday February 5th**

**For more information, please contact:**  
**Ron mitchellmis@rogers.com or**  
**Maureen maureenmcvarish@yahoo.ca**

Join us and discover many walking trails in Ajax and surrounding areas.



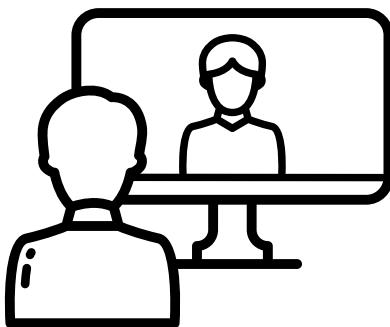
## Walking Group 2

**EVERY MONDAY - 10 AM**

We meet at the parking lot at Rotary Park on Lake Driveway  
**Next walk Monday February 2nd**  
Please contact: Julie - [jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)

This group is for those members who prefer a shorter, slower pace.

# Interest Groups



## Zoom

February 6th

**EVERY FRIDAY - 1 p.m.**

**Next chat Friday February 6th**

To join the Zoom chat contact: Stewart

**[ajaxprobuszoom@gmail.com](mailto:ajaxprobuszoom@gmail.com);**

All Members are welcome

Keeps us connected!



If anyone has an idea for a one-time activity or a special interest group, let us know.

Contact Julie: [jmathewson@rogers.com](mailto:jmathewson@rogers.com)  
or drop a note in the suggestion box at the next meeting.

For activities at the Pickering Village Seniors Centre and St. Andrew's Friendship Club (Currently Cribbage, Euchre, Mahjong) we're asked to join the Ajax Seniors Club (which gives you membership in both centers). Membership is \$20 a year plus \$1 activity fee when you play.

## Random Acts of Kindness

If you are aware of anyone celebrating a special birthday or anniversary, or if you know anyone who is experiencing an illness or who has lost a loved one, please let Jane Wilson know so she can send a card on behalf of the club.

Please contact Jane at **[jw003@sympatico.ca](mailto:jw003@sympatico.ca)** or **905-619-6674**

# Members Corner

## WELCOME TO JANUARY 2026 NEW MEMBERS!

Diane Beettam  
Terry Beettam  
Louise Campbell  
Susan Coulter  
Catherine Davis

Karen Lasinskas  
Lori Mitchell  
Naomi Smith  
Diane Thompson

**DO NOT MISS THIS WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY  
TO BE A PART OF OUR MANAGEMENT TEAM!**

**We are looking for a volunteer to be the Vice  
President of the club.**

**Job Description:** -One year term, after which the president's position is taken over. Attend monthly Management committee meetings. Perform and support the duties of the President when they are absent or when they are needed. May act as a signing officer for the club.

**Jane Wilson** [\*\*jw.003@sympatico.ca\*\*](mailto:jw.003@sympatico.ca)  
**905-619-6674**



# Photo Gallery

No, this isn't snow it is the Dominican trip with Shirlie!





# Photo Gallery



# Photo Gallery



Until next time....

